

ART 34 AMDT

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... the coin dips into the light barrier and leaves it again can also be determined. This is possible for example by means of two light barriers arranged the one behind the other. In this way, however, the problem of a lack of installation space is possibly made even greater such that the expert is in practice often obliged, in order to optimise installation space, to make concessions to safety requirements.

NOT ENTERED

15 The document US 5 485 906 shows a coin distributor of this type. It contains on the one hand a moveable deflection member for sorting coins into different coin shafts. Moreover a device is shown for detecting the passage of a coin through a coin shaft, this device including at least one emitter, a beam deflector and a beam receiver. This beam deflector is secured to a different flap from the deflection member, it being intended primarily that manipulation by withdrawing an inserted coin using a thread should be prevented with the aid of this flap. This document according to the prior art thus shows a device which is mechanically relatively extravagant and large-scale.

30 The object underlying the present invention, therefore, is to create a coin distributor to be fitted into coin checkers, which coin distributor can offer the highest possible amount of security with the smallest requirements in installation space.

This object is accomplished by a coin distributor according to patent claim 1.

AMENDMENT

ART 34 AWDI

Because in a coin distributor according to the preamble, the beam deflector of the device for detecting the passage of a coin through a coin shaft is secured to the moveable deflection member of the deflection unit for
5 sorting coins into different coin shafts or the like, the installation space is minimised.

This opens up completely new constructional possibilities. Since the beam deflector is generally a passive element, a power supply or the like, which would
10 be expensive to construct, is not necessary. On the other hand this also makes it possible to accommodate a device for detecting the passage of a coin, e.g. a light barrier, directly at the level of the moveable deflection member. This opens up the possibility, even in the case
15 of small-scale coin distributors, of also accommodating inside the coin distributor a second device for detecting the passage of a coin ...

ART 34 AND

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Newly submitted patent claims

- 5 1. Coin distributor (1) containing a deflection unit
(2) which has a moveable deflection member (3) for
sorting coins (7) into different coin shafts (4, 5),
and
at least one device (6) for detecting the passage of
10 a coin through a coin shaft, this device including
at least one emitter (6a), a beam deflector (6b) and
a beam receiver (6c),
characterised in that
the beam deflector is secured to the moveable
15 deflection member (3).
2. Coin distributor according to claim 1, **characterised**
in that a first (6) and a second (8) device for
detecting the passage of a coin are provided, the
direction of a coin (7) along a coin path (9) in at
20 least one coin shaft being capable of being detected
from the signals of the beam receivers.
3. Coin distributor according to claim 2, **characterised**
in that the first device (6) for detecting the
passage of a coin is arranged on the moveable
25 deflection member (3), and the second device (8) is
arranged downstream or upstream in respect of the
coin path.
4. Coin distributor according to claim 1, **characterised**
in that the emitter is an infrared light-emitting
30 diode (6a).

5. Coin distributor according to one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the beam deflector is a mirror which deflects singly or multiply or a prism (6b) which deflects singly or multiply.

5 6. Coin distributor according to one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the beam receiver is an infrared light receiver (6c).

10 7. Coin distributor according to one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the coin shafts are a return shaft (5) and/or one or more acceptance shafts (4).

15 8. Coin distributor according to one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the moveable deflection member is a deflection device (3) which can be displaced in translation and/or a pivotable flap.

20 9. Coin distributor according to one of the preceding claims, **characterised in that** the beam deflector (6b) is so designed that, when coin shaft (4) is not blocked by a coin (7) or the like and the radiant power of the emitter (6a) remains the same, the quantity of radiation received by the beam receiver (6b) remains substantially the same.